

servicemembers from the Central Valley recently sustained serious injuries overseas, and I wish them and their families comfort and strength during these difficult times and a speedy recovery.

Staff Sergeant Christian Hughes and Senior Airman Phillip Newlyn, both of Fresno, California, are at Walter Reed Medical Center; and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these soldiers, their courage, and their service to their country and wish them a smooth and speedy recovery.

THANK YOU, COMMANDER CARNEY

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I want to praise one of my colleagues from the other side of the aisle, my shipmate in the Navy, Congressman CHRIS CARNEY.

CHRIS is a commander in the Navy and just completed 2 weeks of active duty. He served as a combat mission operations commander for the Predator and Reaper Hunter/Killer UAVs, as well as the Global Hawk.

Commander CARNEY was the first sailor to be certified as a mission commander, now with the call sign of "Big House." Over the past couple of weeks, his unit flew dozens of missions over Afghanistan and Iraq providing our troops with intel and reconnaissance. They also took out Taliban terrorists with Hellfire missiles and helped with the search and rescue of Americans.

If you see Commander Congressman CHRIS CARNEY back at work today, thank him for his service to our Nation in uniform as one of our citizen-sailors.

WHITE HOUSE ATTACKS FOX NEWS FOR TELLING TRUTH

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, with unemployment at a 26-year high, a record budget deficit, and a looming health care bill that punishes taxpayers and bankrupts the government, what is the White House doing? They are attacking Fox News for telling the truth.

The White House spokesman says that Fox News "is not a news organization." We need to fact-check the White House on whatever they say about Fox and any legislation since they are not being straight with the American people.

Separate studies by the Pew Research Center and the Center for Media and Public Affairs found that Fox News coverage is more balanced than any other network. The White House has no problem with other national news outlets because they offer biased reports and give the administration a free pass. In fact, network news programs have favored proponents of the administra-

tion's health care proposal over critics of the plan by a margin of more than 2-1, according to the Business and Media Institute.

The White House, like the national media, should let the American people make up their own minds, not try to control what they hear.

HEALTH CARE'S IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS

(Mr. SMITH of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, for generations, America's small businesses have been the engines driving our economy, and they remain one of our brightest hopes for economic recovery.

These entrepreneurs represent more than 99 percent of all businesses in the country and create more than 72 percent of the new jobs. Yet, under the guise of health care reform, Congress is set to punish these innovators by leveling more than \$200 billion in new taxes. Those are taxes. The result of these new taxes will be the loss of an estimated 5.5 million jobs.

Our economy is in a precarious situation, the Federal deficit stands at \$1.42 trillion, and 263,000 jobs were lost in September alone. Why would we want to push a government takeover of health care inflicting further harm on small businesses—the very strength of our economy?

WHAT HAPPENED TO AUGUST

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of discussion over Fox News, but last night I watched ABC News as they talked about the new poll put out by ABC and The Washington Post. And I scratched my head as I listened to them talk about the fact the American people now support a public option. The American people are rallying to the side of ObamaCare. And I wondered how much out of step with America would my constituents be, could all of these people who showed up at these town hall meetings be; and then I had a chance to look at the questions.

You ought to examine those questions. I mean, they put the public option in a box and tied a red ribbon around it. I might have even voted for it. And if you look at the difference in the responses of those questions as we had through this entire year, it shows there hasn't been that much of a change.

Now, I guess ABC News has joined the White House and the Democratic leadership in having us ignore August. What happened to August, Mr. Speaker? The American people spoke, and yet the leaders in this body and the

White House pretended it didn't happen.

We cannot ignore the American people despite what ABC and The Washington Post may try to tell us.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 19, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Friday, October 16, 2009 at 2:18 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby he makes a determination and certification of Haiti's compliance with HOPE II requirements under PL 110-246.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

HAITIAN HEMISPHERIC OPPORTUNITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP ENCOURAGEMENT ACT OF 2008—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-69)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

The Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2008 (HOPE II) (the "Act") (Public Law 110-246), amended the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA) to make certain additional products from Haiti eligible for preferential tariff treatment. Under HOPE II, these imports from Haiti will continue to be eligible for preferential treatment after October 18, 2009, if I determine and certify that Haiti has met certain eligibility criteria set out in the Act.

Since enactment of HOPE II, Haiti has issued a decree establishing an independent labor ombudsman's office, and the President of Haiti has selected a labor ombudsman following consultation with unions and industry representatives. In addition, Haiti, in cooperation with the International Labor Organization, has established a Technical Assistance Improvement and Compliance Needs Assessment and Remediation (TAICNAR) Program. Haiti has also implemented an electronic visa system that acts as a registry of Haitian producers of articles eligible for duty-free treatment and has made participation in the TAICNAR Program a condition of using this visa system.